

REMARKS

In the subject Office action of September 28, 2005, claims 1-21 were examined. Claims 1, 2, 6, 11, 12, 15, 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyagi (JP 04169484 A) , and Yoshida et al. (2001/0035314 A1). Claims 3, 9, 10, 13, 18, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyagi et al. and Yoshida et al. as applied to claims 1, 2, 6, 11, 12, 15, 21 above, and further in view of Ueshima et al. (4989694). Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 8 and 17 are directed to allowable subject matter. Specifically, claims 8 and 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

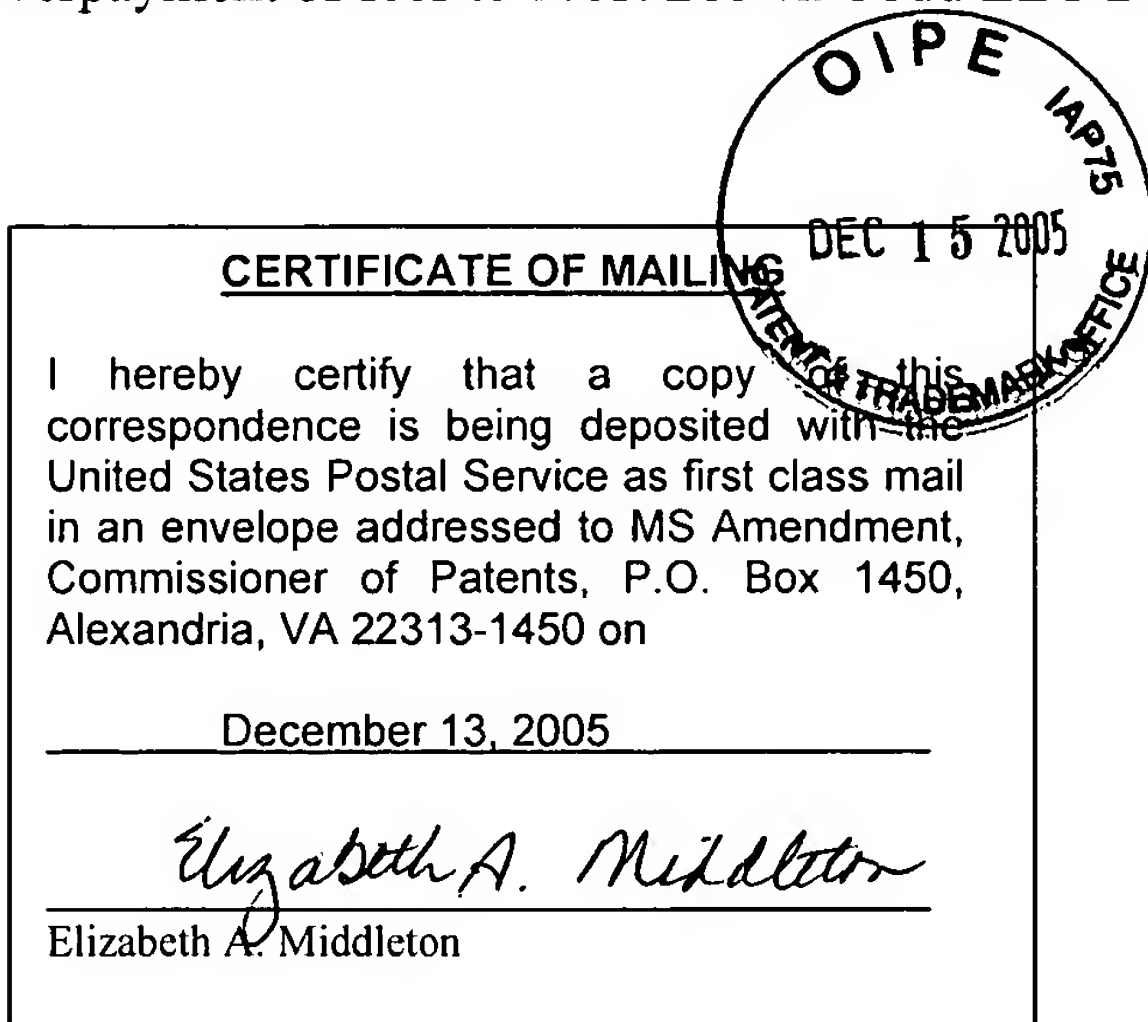
To expedite allowance and issue, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the allowable features of dependent claim 8, which is thus now canceled. Consequently, claim 1 and claims 2-7 and 9-10 that depend therefrom are in condition for allowance. Applicants have also amended independent claim 11 to include the allowable features of dependent claim 17, which is thus now canceled. Consequently claim 11 and claims 12-16 and 18-20 that depend therefrom are in condition for allowance. Applicants have also amended the assembly claim of independent claim 21 that previously included the limitations of claim 1 to further include the allowable features of claim 8 and 17. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 21 is thus respectfully requested.

In response thereto, Applicants respectfully assert that all amendments are supported by the original disclosure and do not introduce new matter. Moreover, Applicants further respectfully assert that the amendments merely clarify the scope of the claims and do not present new issues and thus may be entered under 37 CFR 1.116.

Conclusion

In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, it is respectfully submitted that the claims currently pending in the present application are in form for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of those claims, as amended herein, is earnestly solicited. Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact their representative, David Franklin at (513) 651-6856 or dfranklin@fbtlaw.com.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees to Frost Brown Todd LLC Deposit Account No. 06-2226.



Respectfully submitted,
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